Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 /081 W

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R 301452Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 954

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN QZP

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID GH IR

SUBJ: PRINCESS ASHRAF'S VISIT TO GHANA

REFS: A FREETOWN 165 B ABIDJAN 849

1. PRINCESS ASHRAF VISITED GHANA JAN 25-29 AS PART OF TOUR OF WEST AFRICAN STATES. SHE SPENT BULK OF TIME IN ACCRA BUT ALSO VISITED KUMASI JAN 27-28 THEREBY RETURNING VISIT OF ASANTEHENE TO TEHRAN LAST YEAR.

2. SCHEDULE WAS COMPRISED VERY LARGELY OF VISITS TO CHARITABLE

AND HUMANITARIAN INSTITUTIONS, WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES AND SIMILAR GROUPS. COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI GAVE RECEIPTION JAN 25, ASHANTI REGIONAL COMMISSIONER BANQUET JAN 27 AND CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG A STATE BANQUET JAN 28. PRINCESS MET FORMALLY WITH ACHEAMPONG ON JAN 26 AND WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INVESTED WITH ORDER OF THE STAR OF GHANA AT STATE BANQUET. THROUGHOUT TOUR SHE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MADAME FAUSTINA

ACHEAMPONG, AS WELL AS FELLI.

- 3. GHANA CLEARLY HAS HIGH HOPES THAT VISIT WILL RESULT IN PRYING LOOSE SOME INVESTMENT AND ASSISTANCE MONEY FROM IRAN WITH MINERAL EXPLORATION HIGH ON THE LIST OF WANTS. SO OBVIOUSLY WAS THIS GOAL FOR GHANA THAT ACHEAMPONG MADE IT THE MAJOR SUBJECT OF HIS TOAST AT STATE BANQUET: "OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES SHOULD ADOPT MEASURES WHICH WOULD BOLSTER THE EFFORTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT PROCESS". THE PRINCESS LIMITED HERSELF TO A DEPARTURE STATEMENT THAT SHE HOPED THAT IN THE FUTURE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES WOULD BE EXPANDED. SHE ALSO NOTED THE CURRENT OPEC CONFERENCE IN PARIS AND SUGGESTED IT MIGHT RESULT IN ASSISTANCE FOR GHANA. (IN AN OFF HAND COMMENT PRIOR TO PRINCESS' ARRIVAL, SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OTOO, COMPLAINING MILDLY TO POLCOUNS ABOUT WORK INVOLVED IN VISIT, SAID, "BUT WE NEED THE MONEY".)
- 4. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOLLOWED MUCH THE SAME PATTERN AS THAT REPORTED BY FREETOWN, ALTHOUGH WITHOUT ADVERSE COMMENT. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL SAID NO APPOINTMENTS WERE SCHEDULED FOR MORNING AS PRINCESS LIKED TO STAY UP ALL NIGHT AND SLEEP MOST OF DAY. AFTER JAN 25 RECEPTION SHE WENT TO LOCAL CHINESE RESTAURANT (SURPRISING PROTOCOL CHIEF SOMEWHAT BY RELISHING SWEET AND SOUR PORK), ON THE 26TH SHE NIGHT CLUBBED WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND OTHERS AND AFTER STATE DINNER VISITED LOCAL HIGHLIFE CENTER UNTIL THE WEE HOURS. FORTUNATELY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IS A SWINGING TYPE AND REPORTS THAT HE ENJOYED IT ALL. (HE DID, HOWEVER, DECIDE HE NEEDED A NIGHT'S SLEEP AND PULLED HIMSELF OUT OF THE PARTY FOR THE KUMASI EXCURSION.)
- 5. VISIT WENT WELL SOCIALLY AND RECEIVED FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL OF PUBLICITY, BUT IT REMAINS MORE THAN DOUBTFUL THAT GHANA'S EXPECTATIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE MET. BLACK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: GOODWILL VISITS Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 JAN 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ACCRA00793

Document Number: 1976ACCRA00793 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760037-0756

From: ACCRA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976017/aaaaafef.tel Line Count: 97

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 22 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PRINCESS ASHRAF'S VISIT TO GHANA TAGS: PFOR, EAID, GH, IR, (ASHRAF, PRINCESS)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006